

## General Meeting Minutes January 9, 2018

### Board members present:

Rick Sawyer - President  
Stephen Dillon - Vice-President  
Claudia Oates - Treasurer  
Amanda Cook - Secretary  
Jeff Cook - MNAC Representative

1. Call to order at 7:00PM. 20 attendees present.
2. 11/14/2017 meeting minutes approved.
3. Officer Eric Osterkamp covered a couple of topics.
  - Dave Dahl is the new Police Chief and is available to come and speak to the neighborhood if we desire.
  - There is a new Camp Coordinator within the police department and her name is Claudia Viscara (spelling), her job is to monitor all the homeless camps. If you have any concerns please feel free to reach out to her.
  - There has been an uptick of vehicle prowls within our own neighborhood as well as around Bellingham. Most are precipitated by the vehicle owner leaving valuables within plain site of a prowler. Please make sure you don't leave valuables in your vehicle. There are locking containers that can be installed under the driver or passenger seats that may be more secure than a locking glove box.
  - Officer Osterkamp asked the attendees of our meeting if there were concerns that should be addressed within the neighborhood.
4. We had a guest speaker, Dick Conoboy from the Bellingham Neighborhood Coalition. He gave a presentation about Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (D-ADU). January is full of meetings that can be attended to make your voice heard with the City of Bellingham Planning Commission. To learn more about D-ADU you can visit [www.BellinghamNeighborhoodCoalition.com](http://www.BellinghamNeighborhoodCoalition.com) or send an email to [BhamNeighborhoodCoalition@gmail.com](mailto:BhamNeighborhoodCoalition@gmail.com).
5. Following up from the November meeting:
  - Short platting was approved for 1208 Xenia St. Copies of the proceedings are available, email Rick Sawyer if you are interested in receiving a copy of the proceedings.
  - A neighbor brought up concerns regarding the Bonanza St. retention pond as well as well as possible housing violations with a rental property at the end of Bonanza. Rick went to the City and looked into the retention pond. The pond was built to standard specifications. Localized flooding is due to the natural high waters within that area. If you feel there is a violation happening within your neighborhood, please reach out to the City to look into it.
6. January is the month to re-elect officers for the 2018 calendar year as well as determine the course of action for the meetings. After years of faithfully leading our

group as President, Rick Sawyer has decided to step down. After discussing the direction of the group the consensus was to keep the meetings going as is, meeting five times a year. Meeting in January, March, May, September and November with looking into a summer picnic in August.

- The election of the new board consisted of:
    - President - Stephen Dillon
    - Vice President - open
    - Treasurer - Claudia Oates
    - Secretary - Amanda Cook
    - MNAC Representative - Jeff Cook
    - MNAC Alternative Representative - Jenny Baker-Couch
    - Director - Joseph Coons
    - Director - David Ahrenholz
7. An idea was brought up do we wish to advertise who we are? It could be in the form of a 'Welcome to the Whatcom Falls Neighborhood' sign. But the question arises where to place it, possibly at the intersection of Woburn and Iowa? Maybe there could be a contest to design the sign. Or possibly a sign in Whatcom Falls Park 'This trail maintained by the Whatcom Falls Neighborhood.'
8. Mark your calendar for the next couple of meetings as the format will be changing and should be exciting:
- March 13th - focus on gardening and property maintenance
  - May 8th - focus on bicycle safety with demonstrations-bring the kids!
9. As always local resources can be found at the following:
- Officer Eric Osterkamp [eosterkamp@cob.org](mailto:eosterkamp@cob.org) or (360) 778-8785
  - Litter Control Officer (360) 778-8623
  - Social: [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)
  - On the Web: [www.whatcomfallsneighborhood.org](http://www.whatcomfallsneighborhood.org)
  - In the City: [www.cob.org](http://www.cob.org)
  - Our neighborhood plan:  
<http://www.cob.org/documents/planning/neighborhoods/whatcom-falls.pdf>
10. Thank you Rick for all your dedication and hard work as our President!

Meeting adjourned 8:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Cook, Secretary